

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 14125 01 OF 02 021852Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 L-03 CEA-01 FRB-03 OMB-01 DOE-15 SOE-02
OIC-02 AID-05 COME-00 EA-10 IO-13 NEA-11 ICA-11
OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 SS-15 /133 W
-----001186 021917Z /43

R 021834Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0918
INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 14125

USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, OECD
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE FOR ENERGY POLICY - APRIL 25

REF: A) STATE 103850 B) STATE 104823

1. SUMMARY. APRIL 25 COMMITTEE FOR ENERGY POLICY (CEP) MEETING PASSED SMOOTHLY THROUGH AGENDA WITH NO PROBLEMS. MOST LIVELY PART OF MEETING WAS PRESENTATION OF AUSTRALIAN ENERGY POLICY WHICH PROVOKED NUMEROUS QUESTIONS FROM OTHER DELS. FRENCH DEL TACITLY ACCEPTED POSTPONEMENT OF CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CEP SUB-GROUP ON NORTH/SOUTH ENERGY RELATIONS BUT INDICATED HE WOULD WANT A DECISION ON THIS OR A SIMILAR PROCEDURE AT NEXT MEETING. NEXT MEETING WAS SET FOR OCTOBER 18. END SUMMARY.

2. IEA ACTIVITIES. LANTZKE PRESENTED RESULTS OF RECENT GOVERNING BOARD IN TOKYO ALONG LINES OF AGREED CONCLUSIONS ADOPTED BY THAT MEETING.

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PAGE 02 PARIS 14125 01 OF 02 021852Z

ONLY DISCUSSION WAS FRENCH (GENERAL DELEGATE FOR ENERGY MENTRE) STATEMENT OF CONCERN OVER CONCLUSION THAT, BASED ON POLICIES NOW IN PLACE, 26 MMBD IEA TARGET FOR 1985 MIGHT NOT BE ACHIEVED. CITING CONSERVATION IN INDUSTRY FIGURES RECENTLY RELEASED BY OECD (WHICH INDICATE FRANCE HAS BEST RATIO OF ENERGY USE PER UNIT OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION),

FRENCH DEL WENT ON TO TOUT FRENCH CONSERVATION PROGRAM AS EXAMPLE WHICH IEA COUNTRIES SHOULD FOLLOW. LANTZKE RESPONDED THAT HE EXPECTED IEA TO ACHIEVE 1985 TARGET BASED ON POLICIES UNDER CONSIDERATION IN US AND ELSEWHERE. HE CHALLENGED FRENCH INTERPRETATION OF CONSERVATION IN INDUSTRY FIGURES, NOTING LOW ENERGY-INTENSITY OF FRENCH INDUSTRY AND POINTING OUT THAT FRANCE HAS SHOWN NO GREATER IMPROVEMENT IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY SINCE 1973 THAN HAD IEA COUNTRIES.

3. ENERGY COOPERATION WITH LDCS. FRENCH AGREED PRIOR TO MEETING NOT TO PUSH FOR DECISION ON PROPOSED CEP NORTH/SOUTH SUB-GROUP. MOST OF DISCUSSION WAS THEREFORE TAKEN UP WITH SECRETARIAT REPORT ON ITS PLANS FOR LDC ENERGY DATA BANK AND OTHER CONTACTS WITH LDCS. STATEMENTS BY SEVERAL SMALLER DELS ON IMPORTANCE OF ESTABLISHING ENERGY DIALOGUE GAVE FRENCH DEL OPPORTUNITY TO REITERATE VIEW THAT CEP SHOULD SET UP PROCEDURE FOR CONSULTING ON THOSE QUESTIONS. FRENCH DEL VOICED EXPECTATION THAT NEXT CEP WOULD AGREE TO FRENCH PROPOSAL -- OR A "SIMILAR PROCEDURE" FOR THIS PURPOSE.

4. AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL. COMPREHENSIVE AUSTRALIAN PRESENTATION (COPY OF WHICH HAND-CARRIED TO STOCKER, EUR/RPE, AND POUCHED TO EMBASSY CANBERRA) PROVOKED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 PARIS 14125 01 OF 02 021852Z

STRONG INTEREST AND NUMEROUS QUESTIONS FROM OTHER DELS. SEVERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNED URANIUM EXPORT POLICY, EC COMMISSION REP POINTEDLY ASKING WHETHER URANIUM EXPORTS WOULD BE LINKED TO OVERALL TRADE, I.E., BY BALANCING TRADE WITH COUNTRIES WITH WHOM AUSTRALIA HAS DEFICIT OR BY "REWARDING" GOOD TRADING PARTNERS. AUSTRALIAN REP DID NOT RESPOND TO THIS POINT DIRECTLY. HE STRESSED THAT AUSTRALIAN POLICY WOULD BE BASED, INTER ALIA, ON VIEW THAT AUSTRALIA HAS RESPONSIBILITY TO SHARE THIS VITAL RESOURCE AND THAT ONLY BY SUPPLYING URANIUM COULD AUSTRALIA SUPPORT ITS NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY WITH A STRONG VOICE IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.

5. QUESTIONS BY US REP AND OTHERS REVEALED THAT AUSTRALIA HAS NO QUANTITATIVE ENERGY TARGETS BEYOND

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PAGE 01 PARIS 14125 02 OF 02 021908Z

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 14125

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GENERAL GOAL OF LIMITING RATE OF INCREASE IN ENERGY CONSUMPTION FROM 5-6 PERCENT PER YEAR TO 3 1/2 PERCENT. AUSTRALIAN REP INDICATED GOA ADVISORY BODIES WERE IN PROCESS OF FORMULATING INDUSTRIAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM. PERM DEL OFFICIALS MAKING PRESENTATION WERE UNABLE TO ANSWER QUESTION RE RESTRICTIONS ON COAL EXPORTS BEYOND STATING AUSTRALIA HOPED TO ENCOURAGE INCREASED EXPORTS OF STEAM COAL.

6. OIL MARKET SITUATION. SECRETARIAT PRESENTATION FOLLOWED LINES OF EP(78)6. LANTZKE VOICED VIEW THAT OIL MARKET WOULD REMAIN SLACK UNTIL 1981-82, THEN TIGHTEN TO THE POINT THAT THERE WOULD BE STRONG PRESSURE ON PRICES AT SOME POINT IN LATE 1980'S. US (STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY LANTZKE) MADE POINT CONTAINED REF A AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF B, QUESTIONED REFERENCE IN EP(78)6 TO CHANGES IN US AIR POLLUTION CONTROLS. AFTER SOME RESEARCH, SECRETARIAT INDICATED THAT THIS WAS BASED ON TRADE JOURNAL REPORTS OF POSSIBLE CHANGES IN SOME STATE REGULATIONS.

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PAGE 02 PARIS 14125 02 OF 02 021908Z

7. OIL STOCKS. US AND SEVERAL OTHER DELS INDICATED THEIR CAPITALS HAD NOT HAD TIME TO REVIEW EITHER OF

THE DOCUMENTS IN QUESTION (EP(78)7 AND EP(78)15.)
IT WAS AGREED THAT DELEGATIONS WOULD HAVE UNTIL MAY 15
TO MAKE COMMENTS OR REVISIONS.

8. FUTURE WORK ON ENERGY STATISTICS. SECRETARIAT
PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN EP(78)8 (HAND-CARRIED BY
OLIVER, DOE) WAS ACCEPTED, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL DELS,
INCLUDING US, VOICED STRONG OBJECTION TO LATE
DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENT.

9. NEXT MEETING. NEXT MEETING WAS SET FOR OCT. 18.
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Message Attributes

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